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MEMORANDUM TO THE FILES FOR EXEMPTIONS

Mr. Flinn called me this morning and said that Mr. Travers, Chief of VD, had told him that yesterday he received a visit from a Commander Horan, representing a Captain, whose name he thought was Welsh, in the Navy (Flinn conceded it might be Wev), and that Horan told Travers about the program to bring in scientists from Germany. Travers reported that Horan stated that about 1,000 names would be involved and that they would be checked first with ONI, G-2 and FBI, and then submitted to Travers for visas. Travers was annoyed and told Horan he would rather have nothing to do with this since he was about to go to Congress to explain our immigration policy and that this was opposed to all existing directives (or, at least, Travers told this to Flinn). Travers was invited by Captain Wev over the telephone to attend a meeting today in the War Department but Travers said he was too busy.

Flinn said he told Travers about the situation and my part in it and that this looked like a scheme to get around me. Travers was told vaguely that there was "some personality" involved in the existing "liaison" with the State Department. Flinn explained that this was not a question of "personality" but of policy.

Flinn asked me what we were doing to change the policy and I explained about the memorandum from Mr. Braden to Mr. Acheson which is in process. Flinn said he had alerted Mr. Lyon as well and agreed that he would tell Mr. Travers that in the event of any future call Travers was to get in touch with me. I pointed out that so long as JIOA existed under its present directives any act disregarding State Department representation was especially illegal.

I talked with Mr. Travers of VD. I explained to him what the situation was. He said that his position with these people would be that he did not want to be

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dragged into this thing and that he would refer them to me as the person representing the Department. He said that in his view a formal directive from the President should be insisted upon to open up the quota and that we should not act on the informal statement which had been reported to us.

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